

CLAIM AMENDMENTS

1. (currently amended) An overhead console assembly for a vehicle, the vehicle having a windshield with an upper portion thereof extending substantially horizontally across the vehicle and a safety bar arrangement with a portion thereof spaced rearwardly of the upper windshield portion and extending substantially horizontally across the vehicle, said upper windshield portion and said safety bar portion being substantially at the same vertical level, said overhead console assembly being respectively mounted to the upper windshield portion and to the safety bar portion to extend therebetween along a first axis,

the vehicle further including a top selectively positionable over the console assembly and extending at least between and over parts of the upper windshield portion and safety bar portion, the vehicle top being a hardtop made of substantially rigid material and including at least one section with an edge portion positionable above the console assembly in an abutting relationship on said console assembly wherein said one section of said hardtop is at least partially supported by said console assembly.

2. (original) The apparatus of claim 1 wherein said upper windshield portion extends along a second axis and said safety bar portion extends along a third axis, said second and third axes being substantially horizontal and further being spaced from each other and substantially parallel to each other.

3. (original) The apparatus of claim 2 wherein the first axis of said overhead console assembly is substantially perpendicular to said first and second axes.

4. (original) The apparatus of claim 1 wherein said upper windshield portion extends along a second axis and said safety bar portion extends along a third axis and said overhead console assembly has first and second end portions spaced from each other

along the first axis, said first end portion being secured to the upper windshield portion and said second end portion being secured to said safety bar portion.

5. (original) The apparatus of claim 4 wherein said first end portion of said overhead console is secured to the upper windshield portion substantially midway across the upper windshield portion along the second axis.

6. (original) The apparatus of claim 4 wherein said second end portion of the overhead console assembly is secured to the safety bar portion substantially midway across the safety bar portion along said third axis.

7. (original) The apparatus of claim 4 wherein said first end portion of the overhead console assembly is mounted to said upper windshield portion for pivotal movement relative thereto about a substantially horizontal axis.

8. (original) The apparatus of claim 4 wherein the upper windshield portion includes a rod member and said first end portion of said overhead console assembly is secured to said rod member by a clamping arrangement.

9. (original) The apparatus of claim 4 wherein said second end portion of the overhead console assembly includes a rearwardly facing, open member engaging said safety bar portion and securable thereto.

10. (currently amended) The apparatus of claim 9 wherein said ~~rearwardly~~ rearwardly facing, open member is securable to said safety bar portions by at least one strap extending about said safety bar portion.

11. (original) The apparatus of claim 1 wherein said overhead console assembly has first and second end portions spaced from each other along the first axis and mounted for movement relative to each other along said first axis between at least two positions to selectively adjust the distance between said first and second end portions.

12. (original) The apparatus of claim 1 wherein the length of said overhead console assembly along said first axis is adjustable.

13. (original) The apparatus of claim 1 wherein the upper windshield portion extends along a second substantially horizontal axis for a first distance and said overhead console assembly has a width in a direction substantially parallel to said second axis, said width being substantially less than said first distance.

14. (original) The apparatus of claim 13 wherein the width of said overhead console assembly is substantially uniform along said first axis.

15. (canceled)

16. (currently amended) The apparatus of claim ~~15~~ 1 wherein said top is releasably securable to the upper windshield portion.

17. (currently amended) The apparatus of claim ~~15~~ 1 wherein said top is releasably securable to the upper windshield portion by at least one latching mechanism.

18. (cancelled)

19. (cancelled)

20. (cancelled)

21. (cancelled)

22. (currently amended) The apparatus of claim ~~21~~ 1 wherein said hardtop further includes at least a second section with an edge portion positionable above the console assembly and at least partially supported by said console assembly.

23. (original) The apparatus of claim 22 wherein the edge portions of the first and second sections of the hardtop abut one another over the console assembly.

24. (original) The apparatus of claim 23 wherein parts of said abutting edge portions of the first and second sections of the hardtop overlap one another.

25. (original) The apparatus of claim 24 wherein said overlapping parts of said abutting edge portions interlock with one another.

26. (original) The apparatus of claim 1 wherein said overhead console assembly includes at least one instrument.

27. (original) The apparatus of claim 26 wherein said instrument includes at least one from the group of a speaker, light, and electric power point.

28. (original) The apparatus of claim 1 wherein said overhead console assembly includes at least one storage compartment.